

SPECIAL AIRWORTHINESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Aircraft Certification Service
Washington, DC



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

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<http://www.faa.gov/aircraft/safety/alerts/SAIB>

This is information only. Recommendations aren't mandatory.

Introduction

This Special Airworthiness Information Bulletin alerts you, owners and operators, repair stations, mechanics holding Inspection Authorization (IA), and Flight Standard District Office (FSDO) Principal Maintenance Inspectors (PMI) and/or Principal Avionics Inspectors (PAI), of service difficulties and regulatory compliance issues associated with the replacement of the 17 channel flight data acquisition unit (FDAU) with a 22 channel flight data acquisition unit (FDAU) for the **Empresa Brasileira de Aeronautica S.A. (EMBRAER) Model EMB-120 series airplanes.**

Background

The Departamento de Aviacao Civil (DAC), airworthiness authority for Brazil, advises that EMBRAER Model EMB-120 airplanes on which the replacement specified in EMBRAER Service Bulletin (SB) 120-31-0040, dated December 6, 1999; or Revision 01, dated July 17, 2001; has been accomplished, no longer record the longitudinal acceleration parameter at 4 samples per second as required by 14 CFR Part 121.343. The SB was issued to enable operators to comply with FAR 121.344(b).

This condition, if not corrected, could result in incomplete information recording on the FDAU. Lack of data from the FDAU could hamper discovery of the cause of an accident or an incident and prevent us from developing and mandating actions to prevent additional accidents or incidents.

Recommendation

We recommend that if you have modified the FDAU in accordance with SB 120-31-0040 dated December 6, 1999; or Revision 01, dated July 17, 2001, you should modify the wire connections of the FDAU in accordance with Service Bulletin 120-31-0040, Revision 02, dated December 3, 2004.

For Further Information Contact

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